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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X6  
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. As indicated in previous reports, Austrian General Friedrich Franek<sup>25X1A2g</sup> is working closely with the Central Committee of the Austrian Communist Party in planning and supervising the activities of CP paramilitary forces. One of Franek's assignments has been the reorganization of the Werkschutz.
2. On 30 November 1948, General Franek visited a Werkschutz training school at Allentsteig. He left Vienna in a car belonging to the Vienna CP Stadtleitung (CP city headquarters) [redacted] Comment: [redacted] With him was Kratky, a Werkschutz official whose title is Wachkommandant des Werkschutzes. General Franek is to make inspection trips to all Werkschutz training camps.
3. The Werkschutz training camps visited by General Franek at Allentsteig, Lower Austria, is run in conjunction with a Soviet-controlled concentration camp for transient prisoners. The camp installation consists of former German Reichsarbeitsdienst shacks which are capable of accommodating 1,000 persons. At present, there are about 200 prisoners in the concentration camp; most of them are former Yugoslav citizens awaiting repatriation. The prisoners are required to work. Permanent camp personnel, such as cooks and supply officers, are all CP members. The Werkschutz training camp is referred to as a school for CP officials (Funktionserenschule). The course lasts two months. At present, a group of about 80 persons is attending the course. Among the trainees are Fritz Lauman and Franz Luipold from Vienna, and Gustav Schwieler from Wiener-Neustadt. Soviet officers attached to the prison camp act as instructors in the Werkschutz school. Much of the instruction consists of tactical terrain exercises (Gelaendedienst). Trainees are fed and paid by the Soviets.
4. On 1 November 1948, Werkschutz files at the CP Central Committee headquarters, administered by Prohaska [redacted] Comment: [redacted], showed a total Werkschutz membership of 16,480 (see Field Comment below). From 700 to 1,000 Werkschutz members are actually doing guard duty, or have administrative posts; the remainder forms a nucleus of a future clandestine fighting arm of the CP, sometimes called the Black Brigade.

Comment: A recent report from US authorities in Austria contains a similar explanation of the Black Brigade, which is described as the undercover

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This document is hereby regraded to ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A2g  
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reserve of the Werkschutz in non-Soviet zones of Austria where the Werkschutz cannot be organized overtly. It is further stated in this report that Soviet authorities have made plans to turn the Werkschutz over to the CP, and that a Werkschutz staff has been installed in the Central Committee headquarters. We are inclined to treat with reserve reports on the existence of an organized Black Brigade, or Communist paramilitary force, in Austria with membership as high as 16,000. Although the Black Brigade is mentioned frequently in reports on Communist activities in Austria and CP membership is thought to include as many as 15,000 potential paramilitary reservists, the existence of the Black Brigade has never been proved, nor have we received any exact information as to its organization, personnel, or present activities.)

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Comment: General Franek returned to Austria from Russian captivity in the summer of 1948. While in Russian captivity, he was a member of the Oesterreichisches anti-faschistisches Aktiv and has collaborated with the Austrian Communist Party since his return.)

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